

Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2006, Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowable subject matter and respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. Claims 53-75 and 77-91 are currently pending. Claims 79-81 have been rewritten in independent form so that the Examiner's objections may now be withdrawn as to the allowable subject matter. Claims 53, 67, 75 and 77-81 have been amended. Claims 82-91 are new dependent claims. Applicants respectfully submit that because claims 82-91 depend from allowable independent claims, additional searching is not required.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to dependent claims 79-81 as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have rewritten claims 79-81 in independent form. Therefore, the objections may be withdrawn in favor of allowable amended base claims 79-81.

102 Rejections

Claims 53, 56, 62, 66, 67, 73, 75, 77, and 78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dunstan (US Pat. 5,572,110). Claim 66 has been cancelled and its dependent claims 67 and 73 now depend from an allowable independent claim 81 as discussed above under Claim Objections. The rejections against claims 66, 67 and 73 are thereby rendered moot.

Amended independent claim 77 has been rewritten in independent form and now contains similar recitations to allowable **independent claim 81**. Amended independent claim 77 now recites "the charging cord is a device-specific charging cord and the voltage requirement of the secondary battery is determined based on the device-specific charging cord". Dunstan does not describe that a charging cord is a device-specific charging cord and the voltage requirement of the secondary battery is determined based

on the device-specific charging cord. Therefore amended independent claim 77 is allowable over Dunstan for at least this reason.

Amended allowable independent claim 79 has been rewritten in independent form and is allowable for the reasons discussed above. Amended dependent claim 78 now depends from allowable amended **independent claim 79** and is allowable for the same reasons.

Amended independent claim 53 has been rewritten and now includes similar recitations to subject matter to allowable **independent claim 80**. Amended independent claim 53 now recites “wherein the charging cord includes a programming resistor and wherein further a supervisory circuit determines a voltage requirement of the secondary battery based on a resistance value of the programming resistor”. Dunstan does not describe that wherein the charging cord includes a programming resistor and wherein further a supervisory circuit determines a voltage requirement of the secondary battery based on a resistance value of the programming resistor. Therefore amended independent claim 53 is allowable over Dunstan for at least that reason. Dependent claims 56 and 62 depend from amended independent claim 53 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

103 Rejections

Claims 54-55, 57-61, 63-65, 68-72 and 74 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the combination of Dunstan and Official Notice.

Applicants respectfully point out that claims 54-55, 57-61 and 63-63 now depend from an allowable amended independent claim 53 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons. Further, claims 68-72 and 74 now depend from an allowable amended rewritten independent claim 81 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Therefore, the §103 rejections against claims 54-55, 57-61, 63-65, 68-72 and 74 may be withdrawn.

New Dependent Claims 82-91

New claims 82-85 depend from an allowable amended independent claim 77, new claims 86 and 87 depend from rewritten independent claim 79 and new claims 88-91

depend from rewritten independent claim 80. Because the new dependent claims depend from allowable independent claims, claims 82-91 are allowable without a further search requirement. Support for the new claims may be found throughout the specification. For example, support for claim 82 may be found in paragraph [0017], claims 83-84 may be found in paragraph [0032], claims 85 may be found in paragraph [0055], claims 86-87 may be found in paragraph [0048], claim 88 may be found in figure 2, and claims 89-91 may be found in paragraphs [0041-0045].

Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 53-65, 67-75 and 77-91 is now in condition for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks above and further request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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